

to your Local Wildlife Site...
Welcome



Castlefield & Rowliff Wood

discover
explore
enjoy

Castlefield & Rowliff Wood your Local Wildlife Site...

As far back as the late 15th century, Castlefield and Rowliff Wood appears on estate maps. At that time they were slightly larger and joined to what is now known as Five Acre Wood and Desborough Castle. Over the years the wooded area has reduced slightly to its current size of 15.4 hectares (38 acres). However, it still contains many of the species that you would expect to find in an ancient woodland. In recognition of its value for biodiversity, this site was designated a Local Wildlife Site in 2009.

enjoy...

The woodland is on a steep slope and a walk around the site will inevitably end up with at least one climb and descent but if you don't mind walking some of the site twice you can still have an enjoyable walk without the climb. The way-marked circular walk exploring this site takes approximately 45 minutes.

The woodland structure was changed markedly in 1990 when the vast majority of the trees within the woodland came down in high winds. It is no longer the mature Beech woodland it once was and is now, after replanting and re-generation, a mixed deciduous wood with the occasional mature Beech that survived the storm.

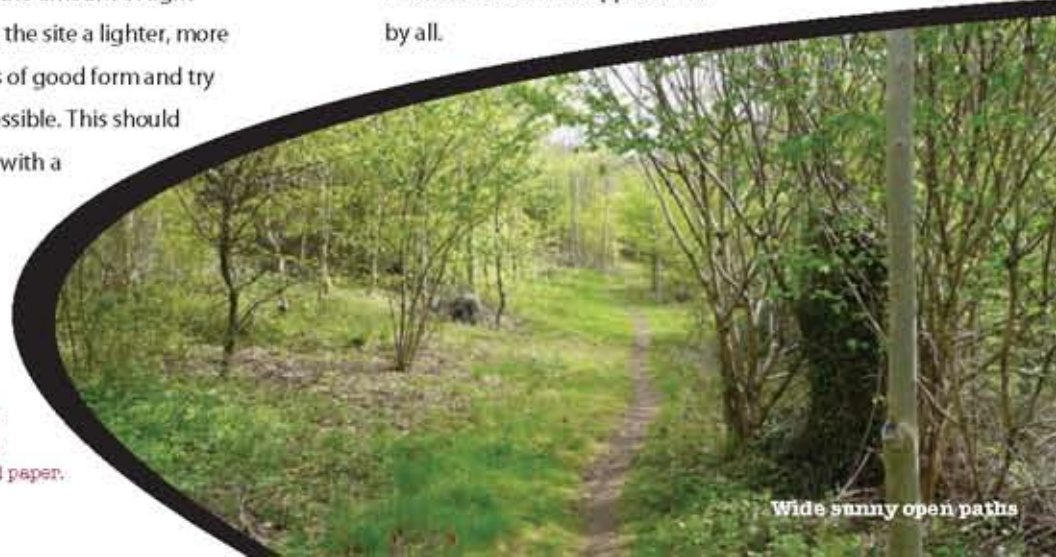


Slow-worm

During the 19th century the woodland was managed commercially and the wood was used for various purposes including the furniture industry, tanning and fire wood. The site was sold to the council in 1931 on the proviso that it be used for recreation and it is now managed for the enjoyment of people while maintaining or improving the biodiversity.

Today, we try to ensure that the footpaths are wide and sunny. This encourages the growth of woodland flora including Sweet Woodruff, Yellow Archangel and Violets. Trees are also thinned out to improve the growth of the remaining trees which also increases the amount of light reaching the woodland floor, making the site a lighter, more inviting place to visit. We favour trees of good form and try to leave a variety of species where possible. This should result in a healthy, mature woodland with a mixture of species including Ash, Beech, Oak, Cherry and Hazel.

★ This leaflet is printed on Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) accredited paper.



Wide sunny open paths



Hazel

Blackthorn (Sloes)

Cherry

cover images: Noctua bat and Fieldfare

discover...
Get the kids involved too, help them to find some of these more common species:



While you enjoy the wood, please don't forget to follow the Country Code:
Leave gates and property as you find them
Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
Keep dogs under close control
Consider other people
www.countrycode.gov.uk

Partners...
For further information please contact us:
Wycombe District Council Woodland Service
phone: 01494 421825
email: woodland.service@wycombe.gov.uk
www.wycombe.gov.uk/woodlandservice

how to get there...

Public transport...
nearest mainline station:
High Wycombe (Chiltern Line) 2 miles
Bus route: Arriva Blue Route 52 and Red Route 55

